



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

FBIS-AFR-96-117

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Burundi

Burundi: Prime Minister To Meet Nyerere To Discuss Failed Talks

EA1506201696 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in French 1100 GMT 16 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Delegates of the 185 countries represented at the UN Conference on Human Settlements adopted the Istanbul Declaration and a Habitat-II Global Action Plan this morning. [passage omitted]

After the UN summit on Human Settlements, Burundian Prime Minister Antoine Nduwayo gave his views on the resolutions, but first he answered questions by UN radio on the Mwanza negotiations. Here he is:

[Begin Nduwayo recording] Things are not moving as fast as we would have wished. As you know, President Nyerere showed a lot of goodwill. He is courageously committed to harmonizing the viewpoints of moderate forces within the country. He has already organized two meetings between the two main political parties in the country in Mwanza, Tanzania.

Unfortunately Mwanza-II did not produce the expected results, but the problem is so complex that people must be patient so that we can reach viable solutions and, especially, move toward serious negotiations so as to find lasting solutions for Burundi. We should continue to support the efforts being made in line with this. I hope to meet President Nyerere in the coming days to discuss the cause of the stalemate, and to study ways of unblocking the situation. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Burundi: Prime Minister Says Military Intervention No Solution

EA1406214796 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in French 1100 GMT 14 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Prime Minister Antoine Nduwayo continues his visit to Istanbul, Turkey, where the world summit on cities is being held. On the sidelines of the summit (he) is meeting various people. He has held discussions with UN Secretary General Butrus-Butrus Ghali. Antoine Nduwayo told our RFI colleagues the subject of the discussions.

[Begin recording] [Nduwayo] I told him that the Burundi problem is a [word indistinct], is a political problem, that the international community must be mobilized to find political solutions. And, you know, there is today in the sub-region a devilish alliance between the Rwandan genocide perpetrators, the former army of late Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana and the Interahamwe [Hutu militia], and the extremist Hutus on the Burundian side. This alliance is today becoming a real

time-bomb in the sub-region which could explode and set the entire sub-region ablaze. You have heard what is already happening in eastern Zaire where they are exterminating Zairians of the Tutsi ethnic group, because they will not fail to do elsewhere what they have done in Rwanda, that is their way of doing things. So it is a very serious problem in the sub-region. We must study how to neutralize these extremists who are destroying it.

[Unidentified correspondent] Have we not gone beyond the stage of studying, and are we not at the stage of finding concrete ways of avoiding a conflagration?

[Nduwayo] Well, we have made very concrete proposals. Only apparently the studies being carried out, the planning, is rather for a military intervention, which does not solve any problems. We have seen this. That will lead to a greater disaster, and the disappearance of the state of Burundi. Even if the state has difficulties, nevertheless it exists. If we come in with [words indistinct] what will happen is what is happening in Liberia or Somalia. [end recording]

Burundi: Army Reportedly Kills 70 Hutus in Gitega Province

AB1606184896 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 16 Jun 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Scores of Hutus are believed to have been killed in central Burundi late last week in a province which has been suffering some of the worst of the country's long-running ethnic conflict over the past few months. News of the massacre has only just started to emerge. From Bujumbura, our correspondent Christine Jennings telexed this report:

According to survivors, army troops massacred at least 70 Hutu civilians in the hills around the Kaniga River in central Burundi's Gitega Province last Thursday [13 June]. A female community worker working [and] living in the area said a Hutu woman told her how she and her children hid in coffee bushes and watched horrified as the soldiers hunted down their screaming victims, shooting or bayonetting them, and throwing their bodies in the river.

Community workers said about 175 soldiers arrived in the area on Thursday [13 June] and in five hours killed 71 people with automatic weapons, machine guns, and bayonets in Musema, Kaniga, Munanira, and Inyabet in the hills. They said many victims were trapped on the bank of the Kaniga River in Behumu Commune as soldiers advanced in a semicircle. One of the foreign workers said five Hutu women and one baby were

later brought to Kibimba Hospital. Three of the women died. One of the survivors had a gunshot wound in the shoulder, club wounds on the neck, two fingers cut off, and a bayonet wound in the back.

Lieutenant Colonel Jean Boscoe Daladague, a senior Burundian military officer, said he had not heard of the reported massacre in Gitega, but that he would investigate further. He said it surprises me because this area has normally had a very good history of relations between the military and the population. The foreign workers said they could not pinpoint a reason for the massacre, but it may have been a retaliation for the killing on Wednesday [12 June] of four people in the area of Hutu rebels.

Burundi: 40 Refugees Injured in Grenade Attack 13 Jun

EA1406172596 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in English 1130 GMT 14 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] About 40 Rwandan refugees were injured yesterday in a grenade attack on the camp at Rukuramigabo, Kirundo northern province. An HCR [UN High Commissioner for Refugees] delegate in Bujumbura, [name indistinct] indicated to the FRENCH NEWS AGENCY, AFP, that the grenade was thrown from the outside of the camp when food was being distributed. [passage omitted]

The Rukuramigabo refugee camp near the border with Rwanda is housing nearly 15,000 Rwandan Hutu refugees.

Burundi To Close Some Embassies Due to Budgetary Problems

EA1406225596 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in English 1745 GMT 14 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] The government of Burundi has decided to close some of its embassies abroad. These are embassies in Tokyo, Moscow, Riyadh, Rome, Nairobi and Pretoria. The minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, Venerand Bekevumusaya, has explained that the reason behind the decision is linked with the budgetary problem facing the country. [passage omitted]

Chad

Chad: Foreign Ministry on Domestic 'Interference' by U.S. Embassy

AB1406200596 Ndjamena Radiodiffusion Nationale Tchadienne in French 1900 GMT 14 Jun 96

[Communique issued by the Foreign Ministry press service in Ndjamena — date not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Foreign Ministry wishes to point out that the audience the Chadian foreign minister granted to U.S. Ambassador Laurence Pope on 13 June was aimed at lodging the Chadian Government's verbal protest over a communique issued on 11 June by the American Embassy which indicated that there were irregularities in the 2 June Chadian elections. In that communique, Mr. Laurence Pope expressed the hope that the Appeal Court would carefully examine the results to ensure that the wishes expressed by the Chadian people in the elections were accurately portrayed.

The Chadian foreign minister drew Mr. Laurence Pope's attention to the flagrant and repeated interference in Chadian domestic affairs. The foreign minister would like to hope that Mr. Laurence Pope's behavior will in no way affect the support the United States is giving to the ongoing democratic process in Chad. He, therefore, urged the U.S. ambassador to comply with his duty of reserve so as to preserve the existing good relations between the United States and Chad.

Chad: Presidential Elections Second Round Slated for 30 Jun

AB1506164696 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1215 GMT 15 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The second round of the Chadian presidential elections will eventually take place on 30 June, instead of 23 June as initially scheduled. Meanwhile, the Ndjamena Appeal Court is yet to announce the final results of the first round held on 2 June. According to the provisional results, incumbent President Idriss Deby and Wadal Abdel Kader Kamougue, the Union for Renewal and Democracy chairman, will be contesting the second round.

Rwanda

Rwanda: UNHCR Publishes Report on Continuing Violence

LD1606191796 Paris Radio France International in French 1730 GMT 16 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Yesterday a UN report published in Kigali unveiled the horrors taking place in

Rwanda: More than 160 civilians were killed in the country last month. Gabriel Kahn reports from Kigali:

[Kahn] More than 160 civilians were killed in Rwanda last month, says the UNHCR's [UN High Commissioner for Refugees] Kigali office. According to the head of the office, Ian Martin, around one-third of the victims were killed by the government army and one-quarter by Hutu rebels. However, most of these crimes were not specifically attributed. The human rights commissioner in Rwanda also highlights the persistence of the attacks carried out by the former soldiers of the Rwandan Armed Forces, the army of the late President Habyarimana, which was defeated by the Rwandan Patriotic Front in 1994.

Ian Martin recalls that the former Rwandan Armed Forces soldiers managed to free more than 70 prisoners held in a communal jail in western Rwanda in mid-May. A few days later 60 or so Hutu militiamen carried out an amphibious operation into Rwanda from the Zairean island of Idjwi on Lake Kivu. Furthermore, the UNHCR specifies that these attacks from eastern Zaire are linked with the Hutu movement of rebellion in neighboring Burundi, and finally stresses that survivors of the 1994 genocide and 41 leading figures in the current Rwandan administration were threatened or murdered by those responsible for the genocide last month.

Gabriel Kahn in Kigali for RFI.

Rwanda: UN Report Says 48 Genocide Witnesses Attacked, Killed

*EA1606152696 Kigali Radio Rwanda in French
0445 GMT 16 Jun 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] The UN office for human rights released a report yesterday detailing 61 attacks in which at least 48 murders were perpetrated between January and May against survivors or witnesses of the 1994 Rwandan genocide. According to the United Nations, 53 out of the 61 attacks were probably carried out by former Rwandan Armed Forces and Hutu extremist militia, the Interahamwe.

The report asserts that blacklists continue to circulate in Rwanda with names of witnesses to be eliminated. In most cases, families are also targeted, the report

continues, pointing out that most of the time the victims are local administrative officials. Most attacks are carried out in the west of the country near the border with Zaire where the majority of the former Rwandan Armed Forces and Interahamwe militia are based, the report adds.

Rwanda: Government Denies Allegation of 600,000 Massacred Since 1994

*EA1406213796 Kigali Radio Rwanda in English
1145 GMT 14 Jun 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Rwandan Government has released a statement condemning people who spread false information on the security situation in Rwanda meant to mislead the international community, as the Geneva roundtable between the Rwandan Government and international donors approaches.

The statement, released by the Rwandan minister of information, Honorable Jean-Pierre Bizimana, singles out the former Rwandan prime minister, Faustin Twagiramungu, who has said that since 1994, about 600,000 people have been massacred in Rwanda. The government's statement points out that Twagiramungu's allegations are baseless, false and malicious since the government in Rwanda has done everything possible to maintain security of its citizens.

The UN has itself confirmed that there is security in Rwanda in reports by resident representative of the UNDP [UN Development Program], Mr. (Sukahiro Hasegawa), another by former special UN representative to Rwanda, Ambassador Shahryar Khan, and in another by Wenceslas Urasa, of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Rwanda, and yet in another report by the office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in the country.

The government statement further says the Rwandan Government is establishing all levels of justice in system [as heard] in order to stamp out the habit of impunity which led to the atrocities of 1994. The government of National Unity in Rwanda requires international assistance so as to be able to rebuild the country and bring together life for the Rwandans.

Uganda

Uganda: Interim Parliament Dissolved Ahead of 27 Jun Elections

AB1606174696 Paris AFP in English
1605 GMT 16 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kampala, 16 Jun (AFP) — Uganda's interim parliament, the National Resistance Council, was dissolved this weekend ahead of [the] 27 June polls that will give Ugandans the chance to elect lawmakers for the first time in 16 years. President Yoweri Museveni, who is also the speaker of parliament, dissolved the assembly at the end of a budget speech by Finance Minister Joshua Mayanja Nkangi on Saturday [15 June].

"This is the last time I am addressing you as your speaker. The new constitutional arrangement will put in place a new assembly with a different speaker," Museveni told the council.

The council [was] instituted soon after after Museveni's National Resistance Army entered Kampala in January 1986 and seized power from General Tito Okello's six-month-old military junta. Thirty-six people, drawn mainly from Museveni's guerrillas, made up the council. It was later expanded in stages to its current membership of 222.

Most of its members are expected to contest the election under Museveni's "no-party system," running as individuals, as political parties remain banned in Uganda.

Uganda: 17 Killed, 10 Wounded in Landmine Explosion

EA1406130696 Kampala THE NEW VISION
in English 14 Jun 96 p 1

[Article by Emmy Allio: "Kony Landmine Kills Seventeen"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seventeen passengers died on the spot and ten others were injured some of them

seriously on Monday [10 June] at Wi-Ayago on Gulu Anaka road, when a vehicle they were travelling in hit a landmine. Army sources [said] the landmine was planted by Kony rebels.

The Toyota Hilux transporting business and their merchandise to Anaka Market was thrown about 15 meters off the road when it hit the landmine. [sentence as published] The blast left a deep crater on the road and thick stains of blood were still visible yesterday at the scene of the blast.

Brig. Chefe Ali the commanding officer of UPDF [Uganda People's Defense Force] 4th Division in Gulu confirmed the incident. "Seventeen people died all on the spot and many of the injured had broken limbs and deep wounds", said Chefe Ali. Among the dead is said to have been the sub-county chief of Anaka Division. The injured were rushed to Lacor Hospital.

Meanwhile, Army sources have said Kony rebels are finding it difficult to travel freely in villages after heavy deployment of the Army. The sources said there are Army units in every two parishes in the district. The deployment aims at increasing Army presence in the villages where Kony rebels used to move at will killing people and destroying their property.

South Africa: 1,000 'Rightwingers' Converge on Pretoria Central Prison

*MB1506143396 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1216 GMT 15 Jun 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] PRETORIA June 15 SAPA—The commander of the Pretoria Central Prison has agreed to meet with a group calling for the release of hunger striker Willem Ratte, after more than a thousand rightwingers converged at the prison gates on Saturday [15 June] afternoon to demand his release.

However, Joshau Joubert told the group — known as the "Friends of Willem Ratte" — that he could not release the prisoner. The request had to be put to the Transvaal Attorney-General, but Ratte has so far refused to formally ask the authorities to release him.

"Friends of Willem Ratte" leader Dawid Grobbelaar told the crowd that the Attorney-General had said he would "accommodate" a request for the rightwinger's release, providing it was made by Ratte himself. Grobbelaar also told the crowd there appeared to be a legal misunderstanding about Ratte's release. He said he had asked Joubert to meet Ratte to clear up the matter.

The large crowd, waiting for further developments, had by 1pm blocked traffic on the main street into Pretoria and had to be pushed back by the police. The entrance to the prison was sealed off with barbed wire by guards dressed in riot gear.

Committee members of "Friends of Willem Ratte", Grobbelaar, Dr Willie Snyman, Bert van Rensburg have asked permission to meet with Ratte.

South Africa: 'Rightwing' Protest Moves to City Hall, Threatens Violence

*MB1506143796 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0959 GMT 15 Jun 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] PRETORIA June 15 SAPA—Rightwingers would turn to violence for the release of hunger striking prisoner Willem Ratte, the leader of his supporters, Dawid Grobbelaar, told a Pretoria rally on Saturday [15 June].

"Today is the last time that the Boers will be decent and patient towards a government treating us with contempt in our own country," the former army colonel, who leads the Friends of Willem Ratte organisation, told about 1000 cheering rightwingers at the Pretoria City Hall.

President Nelson Mandela has rejected calls for the release of Ratte, who is on his 41st day of a hunger strike after being jailed last month for five-and-a-half years on charges arising from the rightwing seizure of Fort Schanskop in Pretoria in 1993. Mandela said he

could not intervene before the prisoner had exhausted all legal avenues. An appeal against Ratte's conviction was lodged earlier this month.

At the rally, where the threat to turn to violence for Ratte's release was greeted with loud enthusiasm, Grobbelaar called on the supporters to control their anger for now. They were due to march to Pretoria Central prison where Ratte is being held.

"We have women children and old people among us," Grobbelaar said. "This is not the occasion to show our muscle. The day for that will come and is close."

Referring to black people watching the rally from pavements, he also called on supporters to respect what he called "members of strange nations." One rightwinger proposed that the press be evicted from the meeting, but he was told journalists had been reprimanded for their "twisted reporting" of the campaign for Ratte's release and that they would behave in future.

Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging leader Eugene Terre'Blanche was present at the meeting but was not scheduled to speak and was not placed on the stage.

In a statement by Ratte, the prisoner said he had instructed his doctor to continue treating him if he should lose consciousness or fall into a coma.

Deputy leader of the Conservative party, Dr Willie Snyman, said Ratte was "only skin and bones" but his mind was still clear.

South Africa: Terre'Blanche Arrives 'on Horseback' To Join Ratte Protest

*MB1506144796 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0825 GMT 15 Jun 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] PRETORIA June 15 SAPA—About ten rightwingers led by Afrikaans Weerstandsbeweging (AWB) leader Eugene Terre'Blanche on Saturday [15 June] morning arrived on horseback at Pretoria City Hall to call for the release of hunger striker Willem Ratte.

They joined large numbers of rightwingers gathering to press for the release of Ratte, who is in custody at Pretoria Central Prison after being sentenced to five-and-a-half years imprisonment on charges arising from the seizure of Fort Schanskop in Pretoria in 1993. Ratte began the hunger strike after he was sentenced last month, and entered the 41st day of his protest on Saturday.

About 30 policemen kept watch through binoculars from troop carriers parked in Paul Kruger street, and several rightwingers were spotted carrying the old national flag

and the flag of the former Transvaal Republic. Stalls selling pancakes, breadrolls and coffee had been set up earlier in the morning.

The rally, scheduled to begin at 10am, is the culmination of several demonstrations in the past two weeks calling for Ratte's release. A delegation organised by a group calling itself "Friends of Willem Ratte," is expected to hand demands to the president's office in Pretoria after the rally.

South Africa: Ratte Says He Will Not Offer Excuses for Actions

*MB1506145996 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1439 GMT 15 Jun 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] PRETORIA June 15 SAPA—Rightwing hunger striker Willem Ratte said in a letter on Saturday [15 June] he does not owe the government any excuse for his actions.

SABC radio said the letter was read at a rightwing protest meeting at the Pretoria City Hall where more than a thousand people had gathered to press for Ratte's release. In his letter, Ratte requested there should be no begging for his release and he also said he wasn't interested in receiving amnesty as a favour from the government.

Meanwhile chairperson of the group calling itself the "Friends of Willem Ratte", Dawid Grobbelaar, said they intend to demand the release of other political prisoners. He said they would have done so even if Ratte had been released on Saturday.

South Africa: Mandela Addresses Youth Day, Names Commission

*MB1606143596 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0850 GMT 16 Jun 96*

[Speech by President Nelson Mandela on South African Youth Day in Pietersburg on 16 June, issued by the Office of the President — carried on SAPA PR Wire Service]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Premier Ngoako Ramatlhodi; Ministers, and MEC's; Leaders of the youth.

Today we assemble to mark the 20th anniversary of the June 16 uprising.

As we do so, the memories of tender young bodies strewn in the streets, in the silence of death, in the fading smoke of the policeman's gun, and amid the tears of whole communities - all these memories come gushing back: to remind us of the terrible past from which we come; to infuse us with pride in the heroism of our youth; and to enjoin us once more, that never again

shall state guns be turned on the youth or anyone else simply because they want a better education and a better life.

We assemble to once more say: thank you, to our youth who were at the forefront of the struggle against apartheid. When freedom beckoned, you faced death and bullets and did not flinch; you responded to the call to build the underground and the mass democratic movement; you swelled the ranks of Umkhonto we Sizwe and acquitted yourselves with distinction in the battlefield.

This you did for yourselves and for the nation. You did not ask for special favours. And you do not ask for special favours today.

But let me say this and say this with the utmost conviction: the nation owes you a clear policy and practical measures to ensure that the youth contributes to, and benefits from, our new democracy. This we have started to do; and today I am proud to announce that the process to set up the National Youth Commission has been completed, and the Commission will be launched at the beginning of July.

This Commission will be charged with safeguarding the aspirations of young people and assisting government in evolving policies that are sensitive to their needs and aspirations.

On this 20th anniversary of June 16, I am pleased to announce that I have received recommendations on the individuals who will serve in the National Youth Commission. I have accepted these recommendations:

The names of the full-time Commissioners to be appointed are as follows:

Hlengiwe Bengu; Nomfundo Mbuli; Mpho Lekgoro; Max van der Wath and Otto Kunene.

They will be assisted by the following part-time Commissioners:

Thabo Masebe; Nazeema Mohamed; Richard Moloko; Rene Jordaan and Desmond Louw.

And, from the Provinces, the following nominees have been submitted:

Gavin Paulse from the Western Cape; Sidwell Sibanda from the Northern Province; Yolisa Makasi from the Eastern Cape; Pinky Kunene from KwaZulu/Natal; Steve Mbuyisa from Mpumalanga; Tebogo Mampane from Gauteng; Moira Marais-Martin from the Northern Cape; Lumka Nogogo from the Free State and Moeti Moiloa from the North West Province.

I am confident that these Commissioners-to-be, fully appreciate the enormous challenges they face. Theirs is a responsibility not only to the youth; but to the nation as a whole, to ensure that young people become an active part of nation-building and reconciliation, reconstruction and development. Legislation gives the Youth Commission wide-ranging powers; and - depending on the application of the Commissioners and the support that they receive from you - it guarantees a vibrant and dynamic role for the youth in the evolution of our democracy.

The success of the Youth Commission will depend on the contributions that will and must be made by young people. Its foundation will be strong youth organisations from all political persuasions. Without support from our youth organisations, the Youth Commission will not succeed; our nation will not succeed.

Comrades and compatriots;

We owe it to the youth who perished in struggle on June 16 and in the many years that followed, to ensure that we achieve what we have set for ourselves; to build a better life for all South Africans.

On that fateful day 20 years ago, you jolted the nation from its slumber, and rejected the slave education that the apartheid regime had implemented, with the hope of making Blacks accept their slavery. You changed the course of history, and accelerated the downfall of the apartheid system.

When on the 8 April this year, the Constitutional Assembly adopted the final constitution for the country; it was also realising the aspirations that the young minds of 1976 dreamt of.

Shortly before its adoption, three issues threatened final agreement. One of these involved the question of education provision, particularly the medium of instruction at schools.

Although approached from different points of view, the debate on the future of our education system was a fitting tribute to the generation of 1976 and the countless martyrs of youth who laid down their lives for a just educational dispensation.

With the adoption of this new constitution, the nation has created the framework for an education policy of which future generations will be proud.

The government is taking steps in redressing the wrongs that were inherited from apartheid.

Not long ago, a school in a town that is situated just a few kilometres from here captured the news headlines throughout the world for refusing to admit black pupils. While their anxieties were fully understandable given the years of indoctrination by successive racist govern-

ments, the parents at this school were actually saying that we should return to the old days of apartheid. That is something we just could not do.

It is fitting that on a day like June 16, that we should appeal to those who still harbour any fear about the future of their education, that they should be part of the larger South African community: they have nothing to fear because the strength of our nation lies in its diversity, and no one will trample on community languages, religion or culture.

The government is fully aware of the centrality of the transformation of institutions of higher learning. The minister of education will convene a summit at the end of July at which the problems of transformation will be further addressed by all stake-holders.

We are also fully aware of the many and varied legitimate grievances that the students have: for example the genuine inability of some students to pay for their tuition. As a contribution to the alleviation of this burden, the government has launched a National Finance Scheme, which will be launched in Cape Town next week, to assist students in meeting their financial needs.

I would like to caution that as much as the problems of transformation have to be addressed, we must not in pursuit of this goal undermine the overall objective of our struggle, which is decent education for all our citizens. The government is concerned that certain elements among the different stakeholders, would like to see a state of anarchy descend in our universities and technikons. Our youth must therefore be weary of opening themselves up for abuse and manipulation by those whose sole mission is to undermine our new democracy.

Let me emphasise, once more, that while we acknowledge the problems; while we do recognise the right to protest, I will not allow a situation in which, in the name of transformation, school property is destroyed, individuals are held hostage and lives are threatened. This is nothing more nor less than crime, and it will be dealt with as such.

I have just concluded discussions with the Vice-Chancellors of our universities and the Rectors of all our technikons at which these difficulties were discussed. We agreed on the absolute necessity for the transformation process to be speeded up. I intend continuing with these discussions particularly with youth and student organisations.

Dear compatriots;

The greatest challenge facing our nation is to conquer poverty, homelessness, illiteracy and ignorance. This

challenge more so faces the youth - black and white. We must broaden the nation's skills base; improve our productivity; and make our goods more competitive in a world that is growing increasingly smaller.

We can only lay claim to progress when the bulk of our engineers, physicists, economists and other scientists emerge from the villages and townships; from Tshakuma and Nkoma-Nkoma. Zwelitsha and Mankweng. You must grab the opportunities that are being brought about by the new order with both hands.

The working youth is critical to our future. The economy depends on you. With your hard work and efforts at improving your skills, you can make ours one of the most prosperous nations in the world. Hand-in-hand with the many able professionals in all sectors, you have the energy to lead the nation in achieving this goal.

The Macroeconomic Framework announced by government two days ago, aims at unleashing your potential to make the economy grow at a rapid pace; to create more and more jobs; and, all in all, to improve the implementation of the Reconstruction and Development Programme. Let us join hands to realise 6% growth by the year 2000.

I call on the unemployed youth not to despair. Use the opportunities that are starting to open up in big and small businesses. But don't rely merely on others. Create the opportunities yourselves, and take advantage of government programmes to assist small businesses, including small farmers.

A few weeks ago, government announced the National Crime Prevention Strategy to defeat the scourge of crime and violence which is stifling the blossoming of our democracy. The National Commissioner of Police has just unveiled the operational detail of this plan.

For the Strategy to succeed, it requires the full participation of the youth of the country. You, as young people, occupy a strategic position to be a critical resource for the crime combating services of the state. Do not allow criminals space to operate in your communities. Volunteer information to the police and participate in the Community Policing Forums. This is the challenge that is facing every young South African; and I call on youth of every political persuasion to launch a visible and active campaign in all localities to deal with these problems.

In our new constitution, we have a Bill of Rights which underpins the new way of life for all South Africans. It underpins the basic principle that all democratic South Africans fought for over decades; that South Africa belongs to all who live in it - black and white.

Guided by this belief, the overwhelming majority of South Africans are working towards one nation pillared on the noble values of non-racism, non-sexism and the unity of the South African people. On this day, I wish to urge all South African youth to rededicate themselves to this vision. Only as a united youth and a united people, shall we be able to reconstruct our land and create an environment where there shall be a better life for all.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission has been sitting for a while now. I wish again to make a personal appeal to all South Africans who have experience to share, to appear before the Truth Commission. I am told that the hearings will be coming to Pietersburg soon. The Truth commission is an avenue to bury the evil deeds of the past and ensure they do not recur. Let us make use of it.

However, in recalling our sorrow, we should not lose sight of the heroism that was the hallmark of our struggle. We should take pride in the epic struggles that were fought by the youth and others in the villages and towns of the Northern Province and other parts of the country.

That heroism is required in even greater measure today; the heroism to build, to learn, to improve skills, and to unite the nation. The future is in your hands. Build it through hard work today.

I thank you.

South Africa: Mandela, Bantu, Mbeki Address June 16 Youth Day Rallies

*MB1606151096 Johannesburg SAsm Radio Network
in English 1100 GMT 16 Jun 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Thousands of people are attending Youth Day rallies and gatherings across the country.

Addressing a rally in Pietersburg, President Nelson Mandela asked South African youth to change their focus from the days of apartheid, and to direct their energies to fighting crime and boosting the economy. Mr. Mandela referred to the June 1976 students uprising, and said never again would state guns be turned on students, or anyone else, because they wanted a better education and a better life. Mr. Mandela congratulated the youth of South Africa for the preeminent role in the struggle against apartheid, and announced that the process to establish the National Youth Commission had been completed. He said the commission, which will be charged with the aspirations of young people, would be launched at the beginning of next month.

Meanwhile, in Soweto, more than 500 people, including Education Minister Sibusiso Bantu and Mrs. Winnie

Madikizela-Mandela, have staged a march following the same route of the 1976 Soweto students protest. The march ended with Justice Minister Dullah Omar being presented with a symbolic memorandum containing the original students' demands on education.

Speaking at a rally after the march, Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu said the government had started its journey toward the transformation of the education and training system into one that would be open to all. He said his department had launched a process that will see education transformed at grassroots level.

Addressing the same meeting, Mrs. Madikizela-Mandela said South Africa was not yet free, and it was up to the youth to see that the country was liberated.

Political parties in KwaZulu/Natal are using Youth Day celebrations to woo votes for next week's local government elections in the province. Deputy President Thabo Mbeki is addressing a Youth Day rally at Kwamashu, with PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress] President Clarence Makwetu campaigning in the same township. At Empangeni on the south coast, thousands of IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] supporters are expected to turn up at a rally to hear party leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

South Africa: IFP To 'Seriously' Debate Role in New Constitution

MB1606185696 Johannesburg RAPPORT
in Afrikaans 16 Jun 96 p 13

[Report by Anne Marie-Mischke]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] is currently seriously thinking about its future participation in politics now that the Constitution is almost finalized.

The party's National Council will this weekend discuss the entire issue at Ulundi, and possibly make significant decisions. It is expected that one of the decisions will be whether the party will stay on in the government of national unity despite the National Party's withdrawal. It has been ascertained that senior party leaders have unofficially agreed to remain in the government of national unity, unless unforeseen circumstances forced them to withdraw at some stage. The continued existence of the government of national unity is not affected by the final Constitution.

All indications are that at least part of the leadership is in favor of a more moderate stance, and greater participation, after the IFP has increasingly been conducting boycott politics over the past two years. It started when the party walked out of the Constitutional Assembly because international mediation on certain constitutional

matters did not materialize as had been promised before the 1994 general elections.

The IFP thereafter withdrew from structures instituted to promote cooperation at different government levels. The IFP has recently been slowly edging its way back into these structures.

The entire question whether the IFP should have a cooperative or boycotting attitude will this weekend come into the open when a detailed report on the party's approach to the final Constitution is discussed by the National Council.

The report is not on whether the IFP is in favor or against the Constitution. Its senior constitutional negotiator, Walter Felgate, told RAPPORT that the party has indeed serious objections on provincial powers in particular, and its legal team is ready to take the matter to the Constitutional Court.

Instead, the debate, based on the report, will focus on the extent the IFP should resist the new Constitution. There's a strong moderate school of thought which believes that the IFP has squandered its chances of influencing the new Constitution by quitting the Constitutional Assembly.

After the Constitutional Court has completed the Constitution, possibly by the beginning of September, it will be too late, and it will then be in the IFP's interest — and the country's — not to be left screaming on the sideline.

What is more, said one of the protagonists of cooperation to RAPPORT, is that even if there are many aspects in the Constitution that the party does not like, it also sees possibilities which could be exploited. This is Inkatha's old approach, the IFP's predecessor: Work within the system to change the system, rather than oppose it from outside.

The group in favor of participation within the new Constitution are optimistic that they are the strongest group. They see the Italian-speaking American Mario Ambrosini as their toughest opponent, but many believe his influence is waning. He is believed to support an approach which he terms constitutional discontinuity.

He could not be found for comment, but his opponents interpret it as some form of resistance against the Constitution.

Felgate, for a long time one of the most militant voices within the IFP, but alleged to be moderate now, was reluctant in taking a view on the debate, except saying that there was to be a debate on the Constitution.

Cautiously responding to questions regarding a possible change in approach by the IFP, Felgate said that until the local elections are over in just two weeks, the tussle with other political parties would obviously intensify. Thereafter it might be possible that relations could become more comfortable. This does not necessarily mean that the IFP is to abandon its role as a strong opposition party.

The debate within the IFP will in fact take place at a stage when President Mandela and IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi have declared their willingness to cooperate in ending the violence in KwaZulu/Natal.

South Africa: Over 75% of Voters Registered for KwaZulu Elections

*MB1406183596 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1327 GMT 14 Jun 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] DURBAN June 14 SAPA — More than 75 percent of KwaZulu-Natal's voter population had registered for the June 26 elections, provincial affairs and constitutional development minister designate Valli Moosa said on Friday [14 June].

Addressing a news conference in Durban, Moosa said 75.36 percent of voters had registered, including 156,232 who registered in the additional four-day period allotted for registration at the end of May. Approximately 261,000 additional registration forms had been returned after the four-day period, of which about 85,000 already appeared on voters' rolls, Moosa said.

Together with Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Chris Fisser and Dr Frederik van Zyl Slabbert, who all serve on the election task team, Moosa addressed journalists after a report-back meeting on preparations for the elections.

Fisser said that, administratively, the process was on track and only minor complaints had been reported by political parties.

Among them were election posters being vandalised and removed, and clashes in venues for political rallies and meetings. These were reported to the elections task team and had been addressed together with the Electoral Code of Conduct Observer Commission. The electoral tribunals were up and running but no complaints had yet been submitted to them, Fisser said.

The team had been briefed on safety and security measures by provincial police commissioner Chris Serfontein.

Special provisions had been made to secure ballot boxes from the time voting ended at 10pm until counting began at the various centres, Fisser said.

Fisser said the postponement of the elections, from May 29 to June 26, had created conditions far more conducive to free and fair elections, with several peace initiatives embarked on in the past month.

South Africa: Task Group—'All Systems Go' for KwaZulu/Natal Elections

*MB1406181396 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network
in English 1624 GMT 14 Jun 96*

[From the "PM Live" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] It's all systems go for local elections in KwaZulu/Natal next week [sentence as heard]. That's the word from the presidential task group which met in Durban today. The multiparty task group is keeping a watch on preparations for elections in the province. Jeremy Michaels filed this report:

[Begin recording] [Michaels] The month-long postponement of elections in this province seems to have paid off for everyone. The task group, led by Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Chris Fisser, is confident that preparations are on track for next Wednesday's poll [sentence as heard]. After registration was reopened for four days last month, deputy minister Valli Moosa says three quarters of voters have been registered. Mr. Moosa said there were minor problems with the voters roll but these were being dealt with. There is also a marked decrease in the violence in KwaZulu/Natal. Peace initiatives from church groups, politicians, and business, are showing results. South Africa's security ministers, earlier this week, said political violence was at an all time low in KwaZulu/Natal. Mr. Fisser told a media briefing that the postponement had helped to pave the way for a smoother election on the 26 June.

[Fisser] Generally we are impressed that administratively everything is in place, and over the last month wonderful things have happened as far as the tension and the conflict are concerned, in the direction towards peace, and there is a situation much more conducive for elections to be held.

[Michaels] The task group says police on the ground will be instructed to be on the lookout for people removing posters, while political parties have agreed to discuss their campaigning programs with each other to avoid clashes between their supporters. [end recording]

South Africa: Mandela Gives 'Cautious Support' to Rally in Kwazulu/Natal

*MB1506140796 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1231 GMT 15 Jun 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] DURBAN June 15 SAPA—President Nelson Mandela on Saturday [15 June] voiced his cautious support of a joint rally between the African National Congress and the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) to cement peace efforts in KwaZulu-Natal.

Addressing journalists after a luncheon for ANC veterans in Durban, Mandela said: "If there is evidence that that meeting will produce a forward movement to bring about peace, we are for that, but we are not going to participate in anything that is just a show, that is showmanship."

"Anything that will be able to bring about peace, we will support, we have committed ourselves to peace throughout...but we are not going to participate in any initiative which is showmanship," Mandela said.

IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi on Tuesday said he was willing to host a joint rally between himself and Mandela in an attempt to spread the message of peace and political tolerance to supporters at grassroots level.

Addressing about 2000 ANC veterans in the Durban city hall Mandela assured supporters that the party and the country would be in good hands when he retired in 1999. He said: "There should be no concern whatsoever as to what will happen when the present president steps down. No organisation, no country has ever depended on one man."

"Men and women come and go, but the African National Congress...will always be there producing great leaders."

South Africa: Kasrils Listed on Indictment Sheet for Bisho Massacre

*MB1706070696 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network
in English 0500 GMT 17 Jun 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Deputy Defense Minister Ronnie Kasrils has confirmed that he has given the police a statement on his role in the 1992 Bisho massacre. Earlier, SABC radio news disclosed that Mr. Kasrils' name was on the present indictment sheet for culpable homicide in connection with the death of 28 ANC protesters and one Ciskeian soldier. Mr. Kasrils has described his possible indictment as outrageous.

[Begin Kasrils recording] I think it's preposterous that the individuals who carried out the particular march should be charged with deaths of people that arose out

of the actions of the Ciskei soldiers firing on us. We were unarmed. [end recording]

Mr. Kasrils, who led about 50 ANC supporters out of the Bisho stadium through a gap in the fence, says he has nothing to hide and will cooperate with the police investigation. He says former Ciskei leader Oupa Gqozo should carry the blame for the massacre.

South Africa: More Than 800 Arrested in 1st Week of Crime Clampdown

*MB1506144096 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1229 GMT 15 Jun 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] JOHANNESBURG June 15 SAPA—Police have arrested more than 800 people in their "Operation Rooikat" [a type of South African lynx], a massive crime clampdown which began on June 7 in the greater Johannesburg area.

In a statement on Saturday [15 June], police spokesman Sgt. Mark Reynolds said about 500 members of the police force, defence force and traffic department participated in the operation. Reynolds said 51 roadblocks were set up, 37 search actions conducted and 46 saturation patrols used in the first week of "Operation Rooikat."

Among the 808 arrested were 396 illegal immigrants, 12 suspected of theft of attempted theft of cars, 16 for illegal possession of firearms, 20 for housebreaking and 23 for theft. During the operation nine people were arrested for drunken driving, 33 for traffic offences, 17 for possession of drugs and nine for possession of stolen property. In addition, 21 stolen or hijacked vehicles were recovered and 22 unlicensed firearms confiscated.

"There is no cut-off date for this operation which is continuing this weekend with concentrated operations in and around Johannesburg," Reynolds said.

South African Press Review for 13 Jun

MB1306135496

[FBIS Report]

SOWETAN

Bond Repayments — Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 13 June in a page-10 editorial says the South African National Civics Organization, SANCO, "is well within its rights to oppose the recent rise in interest rates by the major banks," but "it commits a critical error, though, in linking this protest to the mooted crackdown on bond defaulters, and to insist that having lent money out to clients, the banks must be willing to forfeit the right to recover that money." Encouraging bond debtors to refuse to pay back what they owe the banks "will

only discourage banks from lending in the townships in particular, where the need for housing is most acute."

BUSINESS DAY

Government 'Weak at the Knees' Over Constituency Confrontation — Housing Director-General Billy Cobbett's statement on the SANCO threats of mass action against the banks "underscored the deafening silence of his minister, Sankie Mthembi-Nkondo," notes a page-14 editorial in Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 13 June. Nkondo, who is responsible for policy, left for Istanbul on Friday (14 June), four days after SANCO's threat. "Why has she left the task of stating government's position on such a sensitive issue to a public servant?" BUSINESS DAY believes Nkondo "wants to avoid a personal head-on with the ANC-aligned SANCO, even though national housing policy requires her to take an unequivocal stand. It reinforces suspicions that when crucial policy direction demands confrontation with its own constituency, the government goes weak at the knees."

South African Press Review for 14 Jun
MB1406135496

[FBIS Report]

THE STAR

Party Loyalty More Important to ANC Than Truth Commission — "The ANC's knee-jerk reaction to an unsavoury allegation made against one of its members before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission does not augur well for the commission's important task," states Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 14 June in a page-12 editorial. "The decision to drag Bantu Holomisa before a disciplinary tribunal because of his claim that Stella Sigcau had taken a bribe will have the almost certain effect of discouraging all other ANC members from approaching the commission." "For the ANC, it seems, party loyalty is more important than the truth. This holds grave implications for the commission's ability to uncover a complete picture of our past."

NEW NATION

ANC's Organizational Discipline — "The ANC is right, but up to a point only, to demand from Major-General Bantu Holomisa that he check with the party before making his submission to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission," begins a page-10 editorial in Johannesburg NEW NATION in English on 14 June. "Party discipline" is "not unique to the ANC. All political parties impose a degree of organisational discipline on their members — ostensibly for one primary reason — and

that is to ensure uniformity in the party line for strategic and other purposes." However, the ANC "has no right to demand from Holomisa that he clears his submissions to the Truth Commission with the organisation simply because it intends sanitising the information. Nor should it have any recourse to disciplinary action against individuals simply because they expose instances of mismanagement and corruption with the ANC."

MAIL & GUARDIAN

ANC Moving Toward 'Politics of Secrecy' — Johannesburg MAIL & GUARDIAN in English for 14-20 June finds "alarming" the ANC's hauling of Bantu Holomisa before a disciplinary inquiry for his evidence to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. "What makes the incident particularly alarming is that it is part of a trend, away from the ANC's commitment to open government and transparency, towards the politics of secrecy and cover-up." By acting against Holomisa for "bringing the ANC into disrepute", the ANC sends a message to the country that loyalty to party is a higher cause than loyalty to the nation. It is those responsible for the decision to discipline Holomisa, rather than the man himself, who are in danger of bringing the ANC into disrepute."

SOWETAN

ANC 'Lack of Acumen' in Handling Holomisa, AIDS Play — Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 14 June in a page-14 editorial says the ANC handled the Holomisa disciplinary proposal and the funding of the Sarafina II AIDS-awareness play "with singular lack of acumen." Had the ANC taken Minister Zuma and her department to task for the "obvious blunders in giving such a large sum of money to fund a play, there would have been little controversy." Junior officials should not have been blamed but "Zuma should have taken the rap as the head of the department." Furthermore, any ANC action against Holomisa "will create the perception that the organisation is bent on covering things up."

BUSINESS DAY

Legislation on Tenure for Farm Workers — Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom "will have to proceed extremely cautiously in his endeavour to secure the tenure of South Africa's 1.2 million farm workers," notes a page-8 editorial in Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 14 June. "Because accommodation is generally tied to employment in the farming sector, millions of farm workers and their dependents live in a state of chronic tenure insecurity." Hanekom "gave the wrong impression" by telling the Senate this week that he was planning legislation against evictions, "implying

he was determined to act come what may. His real view, it appears, is that there is a large problem which the government cannot ignore, that he has no cut-and-dried solutions and that he will be consulting all sides of agriculture in a quest for an approach that is fair to all." BUSINESS DAY advises Hanekom to "drive home the message that policymaking will be a co-operative venture. If farmers so much as suspect that the government plans unilateral measures, and that pledges of consultation are a sop, they may start to evict. At the same time, farmers must recognise that their own longer-term interests are not served by mass homelessness and landlessness in rural areas."

South African Press Review for 15 Jun

MB1506164496

[FBIS Report]

THE SATURDAY STAR

Paper Views New Economic Program With Optimism — According to the Johannesburg SATURDAY STAR in English on 15 June, in a page-8 editorial, the business community has often complained of South Africa's lack of economic leadership, which has led to weak foreign and domestic investment. It affirms that "a lack of certainty...regarding key economic policies and political interrelationships has stifled capital inflows, and ensured only modest levels of growth." It says that this falls "far below what the Government needs to deliver on its promise to create a better life for all South Africa's citizens."

The paper believes, however, that the new macroeconomic framework unveiled by the Government has "taken a significant step towards applying the kind of leadership essential to the economic sustenance of the South African political miracle." It notes Finance Minister Manuel's admission that some "radical measures" were required to reverse current trends and "to accelerate the nation into the new millennium with a growth rate of 6 percent and the creation of close to half a million jobs a year."

It goes on to say that "the plan is both bold and ambitious," but notes many of the measures "will be uncomfortable and difficult," and that cutting tariffs and holding down wage growth, in particular, will "make the Government few friends in some sectors." It says the cooperation of the labour movement "will be a crucial factor" and applauds Manuel's unequivocal stand that "the Government is not prepared to negotiate on the main tenets of the policy."

According to the paper, the "real test" now lies in the immediate implementation of the strategy, saying "there

is no time to waste with further planning or bartering among all the role-players." Further, it says, privatisation needs to be embarked upon "with deliberate haste." It ends optimistically: "With a little hard work, co-operation, and commitment, this brave new strategy might just work."

South African Press Review for 17 Jun

MB1606164596

[FBIS Report]

SUNDAY TIMES

Good Intentions In Need of Strong Will — "The economic policy guidelines unveiled this week by the Finance Minister, Trevor Manuel, are bold and necessary," says the Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English on 16 June in a page-22 editorial. The paper says that "in total" the plan "adds up to a far more competitive and investor-friendly attitude on the part of the government." It points out that while the business community has "generally welcomed" the plan, unions still have questions they "will want answered." The paper believes that it will take "extraordinary political will" on the part of the government to keep to its newly-outlined policies in the face of a "shrewd and militant union adversary."

The paper also notes that the plan "heroically" proposes to reduce the deficit and keep it tightly in check under the management of a new budget office. It says "the plan will succeed only to the extent that these institutions work."

The paper concludes by stating that the plan "clearly tilts" away from the "current labour bias," but that this does not necessarily mean that labor will be losing out. It urges Manuel and his deputy to oppose all special-interest groups set out to vitiate the policy.

RAPPORT

Government's Two Plans Have Merit — Two "ambitious" plans were announced by the government this week — one by Police Commissioner George Fivaz to curb crime on a big scale, the other is Finance Minister Trevor Manuel's macro-economic framework. Both reflect "good intentions," but one will not be capable of "taking off the ground" without the other, says a page-20 editorial in Johannesburg RAPPORT in Afrikaans of 16 June. Both will have to be converted "into real deeds" if South Africa does not want to "permanently land up in an irretrievably deep pit." For several reasons, the crime plan "instills more confidence" than previous projects, which "exploded before take-off." The macro-economic plan, however, lends itself to "some sharp

criticism"—for instance, the apparent contradiction between its market-oriented main theme and its socialist "redistribution of income and opportunities in favor of the poor." The latter is the typical ANC approach of "one for you, one for me." Other than that, it is market-directed, and should be "given a chance." The editorial further points out that "the ANC should now demonstrate whether it, or its partners, COSATU [Congress of South African Trade Unions], and the SACP [South

African Communist Party] will have the last say." It already appears as if socialist groupings within the ANC are very unhappy with the plan. When problems cropped up in the past, "COSATU and company got a considerable percentage of their way." Everything considered, the two plans launched this week "have merit," the paper concludes. "How, and whether the details will be filled in, only time will tell."

Angola

**Angola: UNITA Says Over 53,000 Troops
Quartered by 15 Jun**

*MB1606171396 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo
Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 16 Jun 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] had promised to quarter 50,000 troops by yesterday, 15 June, within the framework of the Lusaka Protocol. According to a communique issued by the UNITA Military Forces General Staff on 15 June, over 53,000 UNITA troops have already been registered and quartered, as shown in the following figures:

First Phase:

Vila Nova Assembly Area: Registered soldiers: 5,007; Absent: 592; Dead: 6; Soldiers present: 4,459.

Londumbali Assembly Area: Registered: 5,212; Absent: 1,749; Dead: 2; Soldiers present: 3,461.

Negage Assembly Area: Registered: 5,008; Absent: 162; Dead: 19; Soldiers present: 4,827.

Quibaxe Assembly Area: Registered: 3,509; Absent: 6; Dead: 6; Soldiers present: 3,047.

Total number of registered soldiers: 18,286; Absent: 2,509; Dead: 33; and total number of soldiers present: 15,744;

Quibaxe Assembly Area: Prequartered soldiers: 250; Registered families: 578; Dead: One woman and two children.

Vila Nova Assembly Area: Registered families: 3,247; four women dead.

Londumbali Assembly Area: Registered: 3,515; two women dead.

Negage Assembly Area: Registered families: 8,019; Dead: Seven women and 14 children.

Total number of registered families: 15,359; Dead: 14 families and over 100 children.

Second Phase:

Ngove Assembly Area: Registered soldiers: 5,503; Absent: 207; Dead: 3; Soldiers present: 4,843.

Quibala Assembly Area: Registered soldiers: 4,000; Absent: 396; Soldiers present: 3,604.

Ntucu Assembly Area: Registered soldiers: 1,920; Absent: 21; Dead: 1; Soldiers present: 1,898.

Catala Assembly Area: Registered soldiers: 4,489; Absent: 63; Dead: 3; Soldiers present: 4,423.

Chicama Assembly Area: Registered soldiers: 3,810; Absent: 689; Dead: 1; Present: 3,120.

Andulo Assembly Area: Registered soldiers: 4,448; Absent: 140; Soldiers present: 4,308.

Total number in the second phase: Registered soldiers: 23,720; Absent: 1,516; Dead: 8; Soldiers present: 22,196.

Ntucu Assembly Area: Prequartered soldiers: 833

Ngove Assembly Area: Registered families: 4,060; Dead: four women and 21 children.

Quibala Assembly Area: Registered families: 3,941; Dead: Two women and four children.

Ntucu Assembly Area: Registered families: 200.

Catala Assembly Area: Registered families: 1,816; One child dead.

Chicama Assembly Area: Registered families: 4,409; Dead: Six children.

Andulo Assembly Area: Registered families: 5,208;

Total number in the second phase: Registered families: 19,274; Dead: Six women and 32 children.

Third Phase:

Caiundo Assembly Area: Registered soldiers: 1,691; Absent: 24; Soldiers present: 1,677.

Chitembo Assembly Area: Registered soldiers: 2,633; Absent: 32; Soldiers present: 2,604

Licua Assembly Area: Registered soldiers: 1,988.

Lumege Assembly Area: 572 soldiers.

Total number in the third phase: Registered soldiers: 6,887; Absent: 56; Soldiers present: 6,831.

Prequartered soldiers: Caiundo Assembly Area: 682; Chitembo Assembly Area: 121; Licua Assembly Area: 859; Lumege Assembly Area: 1,392; Total number of prequartered soldiers: 3,054.

Registered Families: Caiundo Assembly Area: 191. This is also the total number of registered families in the third phase.

Total number of registered soldiers: 48,893; Absent: 4,081; Dead: 41; Soldiers present: 44,771; prequartered: 4,137; Registered families: 34,824; Dead: 20 women and 132 children.

The overall number is 53,030 soldiers.

Meanwhile, UNITA soldiers have been presenting a substantial quantity of war materiel in the barracks —

more than 30,000 rifles, 2,000 weapons, and 200 heavy weapons.

Angola: Chief of General Staff Denies Buying Arms in London

MB1406115596 London BBC World Service in Portuguese 2030 GMT 13 Jun 96

[From the "Ultima Hora" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] In an interview with BBC correspondent Aires Walter dos Santos, Joao de Matos, chief of General Staff of the Angolan Armed Forces (FAA) has set aside any possibility of military intervention as a solution to the crisis in Angola. Joao de Matos denied that his visit to London was intended to buy arms, despite the fact that Angola expressed an interest in receiving military aid from Great Britain. Joao de Matos held talks with several parliamentarians after meeting with senior officers of the British Army.

[Begin recording] [De Matos] At present we are interested in technology. The FAA are well equipped and we are more interested in the modernization of military theories and the adaptation of Armed Forces in a situation of peace.

[Santos] You are saying that the FAA are well equipped. Is this equipment UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] said you bought during the truce period?

[De Matos] Not at all. The FAA were reequipped in 1993 and 94. We also have equipment from the former FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola].

[Santos] You have just mentioned the possibility of Great Britain assisting in the training of the FAA. Is this due partly to what many observers described as the wrong purchase of obsolete war materiel from North Korea and Russia?

[De Matos] Not at all. The equipment we purchased is not obsolete.

[Santos] Is it technologically obsolete?

[De Matos] It is not obsolete. The arms are impeccable and we will only replace them after many years.

[Santos] It has been reported that you intend to form an Armed Force of 140,000 men. Is this number not exaggerated now that Angola is at peace?

[De Matos] The Angolan Armed Forces will be made up of 90,000 men and this number is still high. However, to reduce this number we need other technological investments. At present Angola hasn't enough resources to invest in the Armed Forces so as to alter this figure.

[Santos] It has also been reported that the incorporation of UNITA into the FAA has been delayed. The first 15 officers incorporated are not generals.

[De Matos] The incorporation of the first 15 UNITA army officers into the FAA was stipulated in an earlier accord. The issue of generals is a different one and they will join the FAA by 30 July.

[Santos] Is it true that you will relinquish your post to take up a new one as President dos Santos' special adviser for military affairs?

[De Matos] No, I don't think so. I think this is mere speculation.

[Santos] Several sources say you favor a possible military intervention in Angola. Have you any political ambitions?

[De Matos] Absolutely none. I intend to return home after fulfilling my military mission.

[Santos] Recently, the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA] secretary referred to the possibility of an intervention by military personnel to try and solve the current crises. What is your view on this?

[De Matos] I am not aware of this statement by the MPLA secretary general, despite rumors about it. The FAA are nonpartisan and will not respond to any instigation of any political party, including the MPLA. The Armed Forces are an instrument at the service of the state and the people, and its role is to defend democratically elected institutions. [end recording]

Malawi

Malawi: Alliance for Democracy Forms Shadow Cabinet

EA1606202596 Blantyre Malawi Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1600 GMT 16 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The office of the president of AFORD [Alliance for Democracy] is pleased to announce the appointments of shadow ministers with effect from today. The full list of names is as follows:

Mr. (Iyana Mkandawire), will be responsible for home affairs and parliamentary leader of AFORD;

Shadow minister of education, youth and culture is Mr. (Chipimpa Muwowo);

G.E. Zulu will be responsible for local government and rural development;

Bitwell Kawonga is shadow minister for defense and security while Mr. Sam Banda is shadow minister for justice and constitutional affairs;

Mr. W. Chomo is responsible for agriculture and livestock development, and chief whip of AFORD;

Dr. Mponda Mkandawire takes over as shadow minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation;

Mr. Clement Salima will be responsible for works, supplies, and reconstruction;

Mr. Green Mwamondwe is shadow minister for health and population;

Mr. Mgolomba will be responsible for lands evaluation and housing;

Deputy minister of agriculture and livestock development is Mr. J.K. Luwe;

The position of deputy parliamentary leader of AFORD, Mr. Kandenge Nyirenda, and deputy whip of AFORD, Mr. (Chawakawaka Mustisya), remain as before.

Malawi: Natural Resources Minister Resigns

EA 1606191296 Blantyre Malawi Broadcasting Corporation Network in English
1600 GMT 16 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The minister of natural resources, Dr. Mponda Mkandawire, has resigned his post. An official release from AFORD [Alliance for Democracy] office said Dr. Mponda Mkandawire sent the letter of his resignation to His Excellency the president, Dr. Bakili Muluzi, on the 4th of this month.

Swaziland

Swaziland: Teachers To Continue Sit-Ins Despite School Closures

MB1506181896 Mbabane WEEKEND OBSERVER
in English 15 Jun 96 p 2

[Report by Musa Ndlangamandla]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Teachers will continue with their indefinite sit-in strike despite the fact that government has ordered schools and colleges closed.

Secretary General of the Swaziland National Association of Teachers (SNAT) Mr. Saladin Magagula said government has not officially informed them that schools have been closed.

He said teachers should continue going to school for the sit-in exercise until government gives SNAT a formal circular on the developments.

Teachers on Thursday [13 June] resolved to embark on an indefinite sit-in strike until government succumbs to their demand for an 18 percent wage increase.

Government offered 9.9 percent increase.

Mr. Magagula said the teachers resolution has not changed one bit and that any changes will be announced by SNAT.

Comment from head of the government negotiations team Mr. Frank Buckham could not be obtained at the time of going to press.

On Thursday the Ministry of Education reacted promptly and closed the schools for fear of disturbances and unrests.

Minister Solomon Dlamini urged students to continue with their studies whilst at home and hoped that the impasse will be solved soon.

He said his ministry will continue to hold talks with the teachers with a view to persuade them to call off the action.

Mr. Dlamini could not be drawn to comment on the details of the negotiations and referred inquiries on such matters to the government negotiations team.

"The Ministry only works with teachers as technicians. They are employed by the Ministry of Labour. Those are the people to whom your enquiries on the details of the negotiations should be directed," Mr Dlamini.

He added: "I know teachers to be professionals who care about the future and careers of their students. Teachers are also parents and no parent want they children to suffer.

"I have worked with teachers and I know them to be very reasonable people," Mr Dlamini said.

Swaziland: Minister—Teachers', Civil Servants' Strikes 'Illegal'

MB1506181996 Mbabane WEEKEND OBSERVER
in English 15 Jun 96 p 2

[Report by Musa Ndlangamandla]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Minister for Labour and Public Service Mr. Albert Shabangu yesterday described the teacher's strike as not only illegal but also in cold blood.

Speaking from Geneva where he is attending the International Labour Organisation (ILO) conference, he said the same of a proposed strike by civil servants which is scheduled for Thursday next week [20 June].

Mr. Shabangu said teachers were in breach of the notorious 1996 Industrial Relations Act by engaging in an immediate strike action without going through all the relevant channels.

Mr. Shabangu who is currently attending an ILO meeting in Geneva was speaking in an interview with the Swaziland Broadcasting and Information Services.

Teachers have embarked on a strike and civil servants will start on Thursday to press government to accede to an 18 percent increase. He added that teachers and civil servants were also in breach of the Recognition Agreements signed with government which provide several channels to settle a dispute before a strike action.

"I am aware that there had been agreements on general salary review to the tune of 9.9 percent and other such agreements.

"I am aware that all these were countersigned by all the relevant parties as holding agreements.

"I do not know what happened and what was reported to the membership of the associations. But I am very concerned at the decisions because the action is purely illegal," Mr. Shabangu said.

He added; "I know that if there were misunderstandings the correct thing to do would be to follow the channels laid down in the Recognition Agreements. If that fails then the provisions of the law should have been followed.

"You don't just hit them in cold blood."

Swaziland: Official—Offer to Civil Servants, Teachers 'Not Final'

MB1506185596 Mbabane THE SWAZI NEWS in English 15 Jun 96 p 1

[Report by Musa Magagula]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Mbabane — Government has said the B91 [emalangeni] million (or 13.7 percent increment) offer to civil servants and teachers is not, in fact, final.

Principal Secretary to Cabinet Bella Katamzi said they were expecting the associations to respond to the offer.

She was answering questions on whether government would resume negotiations with the associations on Monday [17 June], as per the associations' letter to the government.

"As far as we are concerned that letter was not even necessary because negotiations are not complete. The other side surprised us because there was no deadlock.

"They had an assignment to respond to the offer by our negotiating team and it would be a mistake to suggest that negotiations were complete, because that was an offer from government which they had to respond to," she said.

She said naturally they would honour negotiations because they expected the associations to respond to their offer.

She further said the government was not formally aware of the 18 percent demanded by the associations.

"Formally we are not aware of that, but I cannot say much because I am not even part of the negotiating team," she said.

The denial is contrary to a statement by the secretary to cabinet, Frank Buckham which suggests that government cannot go beyond the offer because there is no extra money in this year's budget.

Following the statement, which the associations rejected, the teachers decided to embark on a sit-in strike, while the civil servants have decided to give government until Wednesday before they join the teachers.

Swaziland: Acting Prime Minister Appeals for Dialogue, End to Strike

MB1606140196 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1205 GMT 16 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MBABANE June 16 SAPA—Swaziland acting Prime Minister Dr. Sishaye Nxumalo on Sunday [16 June] appealed to the nation to play a constructive, positive and meaningful role in the kingdom's "march" towards reform and democracy.

In a statement prepared for delivery in Mbabane, Nxumalo appealed to the country's teachers to call off their strike and settle their problems through dialogue and established channels. He emphasised the need for peaceful transition in Swaziland.

"Bear in mind that our unique Tinkhundla system of government was chosen by the Swazi people, and will be changed only by the will of the people," he said. "Any reform will be determined in the forthcoming constitutional forum announced by King Mswati III, and I therefore call on the people of Swaziland to move forward in unity and play their part in this process which is so vital to the future of the kingdom."

"It is through this process," Nxumalo said, "that the Swazi people will chart our new course and provide the new mandate for the democratic future of Swaziland. In this way the country will develop to the stage where it can take its rightful place in the Southern African Development Community and beyond."

About the teachers' strike, he said: "Let us rather talk. I welcome dialogue, rather than negative and counter-productive action." He emphasised efforts by a few to impose their will on the majority would not be accepted or tolerated by the people. "We understand their need to express themselves," he said, "but negative action is not the way to solve problems."

Nxumalo warned any turmoil resulting from such action could erode the investment climate in the highly competitive international arena. "If that happens we could be left behind, and we would struggle for alternatives," he said. "Action such as strikes and stayaways can harm the economy, diminish foreign and local investor confidence and stifle economic growth. This would mean fewer jobs and less pay, which would be detrimental to the Swazi man in the street."

Swaziland: Parliament Called to 'Urgent Caucus' Over Teachers Strike

MB1606165796 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND SUNDAY in English 16 Jun 96 pp 1,2

[Report by Maxwell Mthembu]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lobamba — Senators and Members of Parliament have been called to an urgent caucus meeting of both houses to be held in Parliament tomorrow at 2:30 p.m.

The announcement was made by the Clerk to Parliament, Mr. Ben Zwane yesterday. In a statement, Mr. Zwane states:

"On the direction of both the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Parliament, both Houses of Parliament are informed that there will be a Parliament caucus on Monday June 17, 1996 at 2:30 p.m.

All the Senators and Members of Parliament are requested to attend the Monday caucus without fail."

The meeting comes in the wake of the current impasse between government and civil servants/teachers.

In January before the mass stay-away called by the Swaziland Federation of Trade Unions, a similar caucus meeting was as called however no remedy was found to avert the stay-away. This resulted to a stay-away that had adverse effects on the country's already ailing economy.

Instead a three-member team was chosen to persuade the SFTU to abandon plans of the then proposed stayaway since such action would be destructive socially and economically.

The three were Senator Obed Dlamini, Dr. Phetsile Dlamini (Senator) and Mr. Philip Vonya Dlamini (MP).

However, despite the plea, the SFTU mass stay away continued for almost a week.

Teachers have already embarked on a strike demanding an 18 percent salary increase. Government on the other hand has offered 9.9 percent and has said she cannot afford to offer more in light of the E142 [emalangeni] million deficit facing the country.

On Thursday civil servants are yet to meet to decide their course of action if the government fails to meet the 18 percent increase. [sentence as published]

Zambia

Zambia: Chiluba Terms Donor Community Pronouncements 'Unfortunate'

MB1506192096 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 15 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Chiluba says pronouncements by some of the donor community to review their aid are unfortunate because it will punish the people who are in support of the amended Constitution. Mr. Chiluba wondered what crime the Zambian people have committed by supporting the Constitution which protects their rights. He was addressing MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] cadres from Lusaka Province, who staged a solidarity march on the amendment of the Constitution at State House. Mr. Chiluba called on Zambians to work harder so that they reduce on donor dependence. He reiterated that overdependence on donors compromises the sovereignty of a country. He, however, appealed to the people to reason with the donor community because it would be the ordinary people to suffer if aid is cut. Mr. Chiluba said he now realizes that Zambia became genuinely independent last month after assenting to the bill.

Speaking earlier, MMD Lusaka Province Chairman Christopher Chawinga called for all loving citizens to be security conscious. He said there was no need for the ruling party to have consultative meetings with opposition parties because they were allegedly fanning violence.

Meanwhile, President Chiluba has said that there is no law which discriminates against certain persons from being arrested by the police. Mr. Chiluba said that those condemning the arrest of Chief Inyambo Yeta were wrong. He explained that Chief Inyambo was not arrested in his capacity as chief but as a suspect among those fanning violence. He said it was the reason why chiefs have been advised to stay out of active politics. Mr. Chiluba said chiefs who want to be actively involved in politics should resign their chieftainship and become ordinary citizens.

The president has appealed to MMD cadres to be alert and deal with persons who seem to be perpetuating violence. He wondered why cadres in the ruling party have remained silent when their colleagues in the opposition continue sparking violence.

Zambia: Opposition Official Claims Government Involved in Bombings

MB1406114196 Lusaka THE POST in English
14 Jun 96

[Report by Reuben Phiri: "Government Linked to Bombings" — received via Internet]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The bombings and bomb scares that have rocked the country in the last few weeks were "a government window dressing to create an atmosphere for arbitrary arrests", ZDC [Zambia Democratic Congress] Deputy Secretary General Azwell Banda charged in an interview yesterday. "The way the bombs are mysteriously planted, mysteriously detonated and mysteriously killing a bomb expert leaves a lot of doubt as to whether the government hasn't got a hand in this," Banda said in an interview yesterday. "The pattern doesn't show any genuine terrorist activity."

President Frederick Chiluba last Friday [7 June] said the Black Mamba could only be the work of the opposition as the government could not work against itself. MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] National Chairman Sikota Wina also accused UNIP [United National Independence Party] of being behind the Black Mamba. "UNIP suggestions that there will be more Mambas, Pythons and Cobras to cause problems if we do not return to the negotiating table clearly show that UNIP and its leader Kenneth Kaunda are behind the Black Mamba," claimed Wina in Lusaka on Wednesday.

But Banda said the government knew about the Black Mamba. "MMD National Secretary Michael Sata is on record as having said he knew the Black Mambas," Banda said. And LPP [Liberal Progressive Front] chairman Roger Chongwe, at a press briefing in Lusaka yesterday, said the government's intransigence over the amendment of the Constitution and its treatment of the country's supreme law as a party issue is the cause of insecurity in the nation. "Failure to provide security and to maintain law and order reduces the level of confidence by the people in their government," Chongwe said. "It is therefore of paramount importance that decisions and actions of the government are not seen to bring about instability and confrontation in the country." Chongwe said the development of any country depended on the confidence that members of the public had in the government. And in an interview after the press briefing, Chongwe advised that the solution to the Black Mamba lay in identifying its causes. "The government has no evidence whatsoever on these people who are detained, they are merely victims of circumstances and vindictiveness for holding opposing political views," Chongwe

said. "What we need to do is to correct the cause. When that is removed then we shall correct the effects."

Zambia: Minister, Chief Justice Clash Over Corruption Issue

MB1406114296 Lusaka THE POST in English
14 Jun 96

[Report by Sipo Kapumba: "Mushota Attacks Ngulube" — received via Internet]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Legal Affairs Minister Remmy Mushota yesterday accused Chief Justice Matthew Ngulube of trying to gain political mileage, and settling personal scores, using the tribunal appointed to probe complaints against him. Appearing before the tribunal appointed to hear public complaints about his attempt to encash a K210 [kwacha] million government cheque at the Bank of Zambia on Thursday, April 5, and awarding a printing contract to Mandevu MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] Member of Parliament Patrick Katyoka contrary to the government's laid down tender procedures, Mushota said he has had a turbulent relationship with the Chief Justice in the last three months.

"I have braved a lot of unnecessary political blame on me by the Chief Justice in circumstances which have forced me to report the matter to cabinet," carped Mushota before a tribunal comprising justices Ernest Sakala, chairman, Sandson Silomba and Florence Mumba in Lusaka yesterday. "I wanted to see the Chief Justice and find out the truth of what he has been telling people at funerals and other places." Given such a "turbulent" relationship with the Chief Justice, Mushota was worried about the impartiality of the tribunal. "I have really been worried that if anything happened to me and I went to court, I wonder if an institution being supervised by a person who has exhibited such bias and disgust against me, would give me justice," Mushota said. The tribunal was appointed by Chief Justice Ngulube, in accordance with the provisions of section 13 (3) of the Parliamentary and Ministerial Code of Conduct Act, after receiving written complaints from retired Brigadier General Nicholas Zulu on May 28 that Mushota had attempted to cash a K210 million at the Bank of Zambia.

The Chief Justice received another complaint from Corinth Njovu concerning how Mushota awarded a K110 million contract for printing constitutional materials to First Factors, a company owned by Katyoka. Mushota, however, charged before the tribunal yesterday that he believed Chief Justice Ngulube appointed the tribunal to vent out his anger at being removed as chairman of the Council for Legal Education and being replaced by the attorney general. Mushota wondered, in

such circumstances, how justice could be dispensed by a body appointed by Chief Justice Ngulube. The minister demanded an assurance from the tribunal that he would be given justice, without taking into account external considerations. Justice Sakala assured Mushota the tribunal will not be influenced by the personal differences he had with Chief Justice Ngulube.

In an interview after the tribunal adjourned, Mushota claimed that Chief Justice Ngulube had been telling people that he was trying to influence President Chiluba to have him removed from his post. "He had been telling people that I am after his neck and I am doing everything possible to get the President to remove him from his job," Mushota said. "The problem between me and the Chief Justice started after the constitutional amendments about the judiciary, which judges were opposed to, which Ngulube thinks I initiated." But Chief Justice Ngulube in a telephone interview from Livingstone's Mosi-o-Tunya Hotel yesterday dismissed Mushota's claims as "a lot of rubbish." "I am neither petty, childish, vindictive nor malicious. That is a lot of rubbish," Chief Justice Ngulube said. "I am not the one who passed the law under which the tribunal is appointed. I am not the one who said people should complain to the Chief Justice." Mushota had also asked the tribunal that the two complaints against him be consolidated. The minister pointed out that the complaint brought by Brig. Gen. Zulu was vague making it difficult for him to mount a meaningful defense. "If I went to the Bank of Zambia to cash a cheque so what?" Mushota asked. "I do cash government cheques and the nature of the complaint makes it difficult for me to raise a defense." Mushota said since the matter was political and if the tribunal found against him, he could lose his seat in Parliament, he needed to be clear about what he was doing and asked the tribunal to make available to him all the records pertaining to the complaints so he could mount a proper defense. The tribunal, however, refused to consolidate the complaints saying they were separate and in the interest of justice it was not desirable to do so. And regarding Zulu's complaint being vague, Justice Sakala noted that it was made by a layman. Justice Sakala accepted Mushota's request to have access to the tribunal records. Mushota, however, complained that his appearance before the tribunal meant that he was under trial as far as the law was concerned and he was worried that there was no right of appeal in the procedures

because the report went straight to the President and the Speaker of the National Assembly who could decide his fate based on it. Mushota also complained that he had been served wrong summons and the correct ones were only served yesterday at the tribunal. But Justice Sakala disagreed that the tribunal was like a trial because its job was just to probe and at the end say whether a criminal offense was committed or not. Justice Sakala apologized to Mushota about the mix-up in the summons but said by now it should have been apparent what the complaints against the minister were.

Zambia: Minister—Kaunda 'Advocating Violence,' Threatens Arrest

MB1606170796 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1631 GMT 16 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] LUSAKA June 16 SAPA—Zambia Defence Minister Ben Mwila on Sunday [17 June] threatened former President Kenneth Kaunda with arrest if he persisted in encouraging violence.

"Kaunda should not be surprised if security forces pounce on him for advocating violence and for his alleged link to the subversive Black Mamba urban terrorist gangsters," Mwila said.

The minister reminded Kaunda that he was not above the law.

Top leaders of Kaunda's United National Independence Party (UNIP) had already been arrested and charged with treason for their alleged part in the recent spate of bomb blasts in the country, Mwila said.

Kaunda was barred from contesting the presidency by the amended Constitution because his parents came from Malawi. He had also served more than the two terms of tenure stipulated in the present constitution.

Kaunda had said publicly he would defy the law if barred from contesting the elections. "There is no one to stop me from running for presidency," he said. "This Constitution is worse than apartheid. It classifies citizens into first, second and third categories."

UNIP Member of Parliament Prof. Patrick Mvunga said the party's only option now was to challenge the legality of the Constitution. If the party failed, he said, the UNIP would have to resort to its congress to choose another presidential candidate.

Cote d'Ivoire**Cote d'Ivoire: Measures Taken To Ensure Security at Liberian Border***AB1506153296 Abidjan La Chaine Une Television Network in French 1300 GMT 15 Jun 96*

[Government communique issued in Abidjan on 15 June]

[FBIS Translated Text] On 7 June, Cote d'Ivoire was attacked by armed elements from Liberia. This deadly attack carried out against the village of Basobly in Toulepleu Subprefecture left 15 people dead, four injured, and 22 reported missing. Property was also looted and destroyed.

From February 1992 until now, the various warring factions in Liberia have carried out about 20 different forms of attacks and acts of aggression against Cote d'Ivoire.

Loyal to its policy of openness and dialogue, Cote d'Ivoire has, since the beginning of the war in this brotherly country, done everything possible to give assistance and aid to some 400,000 Liberians who have sought refuge on its territory, and to help in the consolidation of the ongoing peace process of which it is one of the major initiators.

Following this aggression, the president of the Republic, who has been following the situation at the Ivorian-Liberian border with particular interest, has sent the minister of defense, accompanied by his closest assistants and the prefect of Guiglo, to the region of Guiglo, more precisely to Toulepleu Subprefecture. In addition to investigating the situation, the objective of the mission is to reassure the people of the determination of the head of state and the government to do everything possible to find an appropriate solution to the various negative effects of the continued fighting in the Liberian civil war.

As of now, all steps and measures have been taken in order to restore stability on our western border which runs along the Cavally River, through the reinforcement of the security machinery. Thus, Army reinforcements have been deployed in the entire zone. Similarly, material and technical measures will be increased to serve as a deterrent so that in the event of an attack, these units can react promptly and with the greatest vigor.

Cote d'Ivoire refuses to be victim of its hospitality and its profound aspiration to cultivate peace. Our country ardently hopes that both the diplomatic and financial efforts that it has ceaselessly made since the beginning of this conflict will be rightly appreciated, and that these

acts of provocation by Liberian rebels — whatever their factions — will cease.

Without renouncing its policy of openness, Cote d'Ivoire wishes to solemnly warn all ill-intentioned people wishing to take advantage of its policy of openness to disturb the atmosphere of peace and tranquility so dear to it.

Unflinching in its commitments, the government urges the people and the workers of the social and economic sectors at the border zone to go about their duties normally, because all steps have been taken to ensure their security. The government further encourages them to continue to give their support to the civil and military authorities, and to bring to their notice any information that can help them in the accomplishment of their duties.

Issued in Abidjan on 15 June 1996

[Signed] The government secretary general

Cote d'Ivoire: Liberian Refugee Ship Said Drifting Toward Coast*AB1506195296 Paris AFP in French 1607 GMT 15 Jun 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] Abidjan, 15 Jun (AFP) — A ship resembling the Zolotitsa, the Russian cargo ship which has been wandering along the West African coast for over two weeks now with some 400 Liberian refugees on board, was seen drifting toward Cote d'Ivoire today by a French crew.

The captain of the Antea, a boat used by the French Overseas Scientific and Technical Research Office [ORSTOM], saw a cargo ship with "between 300 and 400 passengers on board," which seemed to have broken down, and which was drifting in the current toward Cote d'Ivoire, at about 400 km southwest of Abidjan, Alain Morliere, an ORSTOM official, told AFP. The captain was not able to make out the name of the ship, but his description of the ship corresponds to that of the Zolotitsa, Mr. Morliere added.

This morning, an aircraft belonging to Doctors Without Borders [MSF] which wanted to evaluate the medical needs of the people on board the Zolotitsa, tried unsuccessfully to spot the ship by flying over the sea for five hours between Abidjan and Accra.

Yesterday, the UNHCR said in Geneva that the Zolotitsa might have stopped in international waters off the coast of Ghana, and that the captain of the ship has intentionally stopped the engines, adding however, that the information has not been completely confirmed.

The Zolotitsa, which left Monrovia on 26 May at a time when the Liberian capital was rife with terror,

was not accepted in Cote d'Ivoire, Togo, or Ghana despite the intervention of the UNHCR and the U.S. State Department. According to the UNHCR, some 236 Liberians and 135 Ghanaians are on board the ship but the Ghanaian authorities, who refused this week to allow the passengers to disembark at Takoradi, doubt the real nationality of the passengers.

Ghana

Ghana: MP Not Allowed To Discuss Political Violence in Parliament

AB1406195196 London BBC World Service
in English 1705 GMT 14 Jun 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] An independent MP in Ghana got short shrift in Parliament when he tried to raise the sensitive issue of political violence. The MP wanted to discuss the incident early this month at the University of Legon just outside Accra. A visit to the campus by the president ended in violence, which opposition students blamed on government supporters. Well, when the MP couldn't have his say in Parliament, he spoke to journalists instead. From Accra, Adjoa Yeboah-Arari reports.

[Begin Yeboah-Afari recording] Alleging that he had been prevented from speaking on the issue in Parliament, independent member, John Achuliwor, today called a defiant press conference to condemn what he described as the alarming frequency and scale of political thuggery in Ghana in recent times. Mr. Achuliwor cited some instances of thuggery, which he indicated were committed by supporters of the government against pro-democracy groups. The member for Navrongo-Central said, however, the immediate cause of his concern was the incident two weeks ago, where some students of the University of Ghana were brutally assaulted by what Achuliwor claimed were thugs linked to the ruling National Democratic Congress.

Achuliwor warned that Ghana was treading a dangerous path, and it was disturbing that no arrests had been made two weeks later. He deplored the fact that although many students sustained injuries, nobody seemed to be doing anything about it. Achuliwor, therefore, called on Parliament and the university administration to set up an independent probe into the violence. He said this being an election year, decisive action is needed to prevent full-scale conflict. Achuliwor said he originally intended to raise the matter on the floor of the House but the speaker, Mr. Justice D.F. Annan, had disallowed his statement allegedly on the grounds that the subject was too controversial.

Another independent member of Parliament, Hawa Yakubu Ogede, who was at the press conference, expressed concern about the gagging of Achuliwor. Mrs. Ogede said this was neither fair to the country nor democratic. [end recording]

Ghana: PNCP Issues Statement on Arkaah's Presidential Candidacy

AB1406175096 Accra Ghana Broadcasting
Corporation Radio Network in English
1300 GMT 14 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The People's National Convention Party has expressed regret at the failure of the Nkrumahist parties to unite before electing national officers and a presidential candidate. In a statement the PNCP said the holding of the PCP [People's Convention Party.] congress in Kumasi, which led to the election of Mr. Arkaah as the presidential candidate, has sabotaged all the genuine efforts of Dr. Hilla Limann and some CPP [Convention People's Party] elders to unite the parties in the Nkrumahist political family.

The statement said the election of Mr. Arkaah as the presidential candidate of the PCP has therefore threatened the fortunes and future of the Nkrumahist political family. It said after an in depth assessment of the unfolding event, the PNCP, as a legally constituted body, is left with no other choice but to continue with its organization in preparation for the general elections in December.

The leadership of the party therefore urged all its members to intensify their efforts at selecting parliamentary candidates and delegates for the national congress scheduled for Accra in August. The party also welcomed all Nkrumahists who genuinely yearn for unity to join forces with its members to build a formidable party to contest the elections.

Ghana: Police Search for Arms in Liberian Refugee Camp

AB1706084896 Accra Ghana Broadcasting
Corporation Radio Network in English
0600 GMT 17 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The police have searched the Liberian refugee camp at Buduburam following complaints of armed robbery and sale of firearms by some of the refugees. There have been reports of armed gangs who deflate tires of vehicles and rob passengers at gunpoint between Winneba and Accra, and it is suspected that some Liberian refugees might be involved. Our reporter who witnessed the search said two old rifles were seized, and one person was arrested.

Addressing the refugees later, the deputy commissioner of police in charge of operations, Mr. Abudu, said it is necessary that all of them are duly registered. More than 300 of them were taken to the immigration office for registration. The head of the Liberian reception committee, Mr. James Rear, said the tip-off to the police concerning the sale of firearms followed the arrival of some Liberians who were on the Nigerian ship, Bulk Challenger.

Guinea

Guinea: More Officers Arrested for February Army Mutiny

AB1406194096 Paris AFP in French
1440 GMT 14 Jun 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Conakry, 14 Jun (AFP) — New arrests were made recently of 15 Guinean army officers following the 2 and 3 February military mutiny, it was learned from informed sources in Conakry.

These arrests have come to add up to an earlier arrest of 42 other officers who are being held for disturbing the security of the state and the destruction of the public property, sources close to the Ministry of Defense explain.

The army mutiny, which was carried out in demand for salary payments, left some 50 people dead and 300 injured. The presidential palace was destroyed by mortar shell during the insurrection which was transformed into a coup attempt. Guinean President General Lansana Conte later put the situation under control.

Among the officers arrested are five air force officers, informed sources explained. Furthermore, the same sources disclose, five officers, suspected of having participated in the February mutiny, are on the run.

The Guinean Human Rights Organization has said that "it was worried over the disappearance of the Guinean officers who have not been officially arrested." It told AFP that it has asked the Guinean authorities to shed light on these disappearances.

Liberia

Liberia: Food Prices Soar in Monrovia After Pullout of Aid Services

AB1406205696 London BBC World Service
in English 1705 GMT 14 Jun 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] As if Monrovia doesn't have enough problems, it has now got another: soaring food prices. International aid agencies are refusing to resume

humanitarian activities until there is a minimum level of security, and the warring factions show respect for humanitarian principles. And, it has had a knock-on effect on food prices. From Monrovia, Jonathan Peyley telexed this report

The food shortage in Monrovia has reached crisis proportions in the wake of the NGO's [nongovernmental organizations] decision to stop operations. This afternoon, the price of a bag of Liberia's staple food, rice, rose to 5,000 Liberian dollars — equivalent to \$100. Early this morning, hundreds of traders and housewives, who queued up in front of the main entrance of the port of Monrovia were buying the rice at \$75 a bag from warehouse keepers. Up until 4 o'clock [1600 GMT] this afternoon, crowds of hungry people were still struggling to enter the port in a drastic bid to secure small quantities of rice.

The dramatic change in the price of the nation's staple commodity during the last 48 hours has also affected the retail price on the market. A kilo of rice which was sold for 20 Liberian dollars up to yesterday, is this afternoon going for between 50 and 75 dollars. This shortage of rice in the capital has forced the vast majority of residents to turn to cassava products, which are equally scarce and expensive due to difficulties in transporting them from the countryside. Commercial vehicles entering the capital from rural Liberia with food items are chased down the road by market women, who buy the items at relatively reasonable prices and in turn sell them exorbitantly.

Niger

Niger: Mainassara Confirms Election Date, Launches Campaign

AB1406151096 Niamey Voix du Sahel Network
in French 1200 GMT 14 Jun 96

[Address by Brigadier General Ibrahim Bare Mainassara, head of state and National Salvation Council chairman, in Niamey on 13 June — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] Niger men and women, dear compatriots: On 27 January as you know, the Niger Army was left with no alternative but to seize power to save Niger from chaos, and thus spare our people the useless ordeal that would have resulted from a civil war which was inevitable at that time. The action was not directed at anyone; it was rather aimed at — without any ulterior motives — sanitizing the political and socioeconomic atmosphere, notably at ensuring national recovery. That is why I pledged on behalf of the Army to reorganize the legal and institutional framework, and to strive resolutely toward building a truly democratic society.

In view of that pledge, we named a government made up of civilian personalities at a very early stage, and set in motion the institutional reform process which resulted, successively, in the creation of the Council of Wisemen, the organization of the national forum and constitutional referendum, and the lifting of the ban on political parties.

All that was done in accordance with the schedule that we drew up to follow, and which is expected to lead to the presidential election slated for 7 July. However, as you know, first and foremost, an electoral campaign was provided for under our electoral code. The campaign, which is expected to begin on 14 June, that is tomorrow at midnight, will end on 5 July.

The electoral campaign period in all countries is an extremely sensitive one, and citizens are asked to show the same patriotic sense, that is to be conscious of the stakes resulting from the poll. What is important, therefore, is for each of us to be convinced that Niger is at a decisive turning point of its existence, and that it is the duty of all of us to participate in the decision-making by properly discharging our obligations as citizens, and scrupulously respecting not only the provisions provided for by the electoral code but also the laws and regulations in force.

I cannot, therefore, draw enough attention of each and everyone of you to the interest that our people have in passing this decisive test in order to enable our country to regain an honorable seat within the comity of nations. That is why in my capacity as head of state and commander in chief of the Armed Forces, I once again reaffirm my pledge to keep the Army away from the political arena.

I, therefore, call on political party officials to be convinced once for all that our Army, which is derived from the people, is at the service of the nation. I call on political party activists, regardless of their leaning, to consider that they are all children of the same country, and that beyond their parties, they have to strive for national unity and cohesion, true peace, and the rehabilitation of our dear Niger.

In the same vein, I call on the support committees that have been spontaneously established throughout our country to continue to maintain the ideals they are defending with faith and determination. In other words, I call on them to bring the Niger people together in order to confirm the advent of a democratic renewal, and to set our country on the orbit of victorious nations.

I, therefore, hope that the present campaign will take place in a very serene atmosphere and in total tolerance

so that our people can make their choice very freely and knowingly.

This said, I declare the campaign for the presidential election slated for 7 July officially open.

Long live Niger. Long live the Republic.

I thank you.

Niger: Electoral Commission Endorses Presidential Election Date

*AB1506172696 Paris AFP in English
1311 GMT 15 Jun 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Niamey, 15 Jun (AFP) — Niger's electoral commission, known as CENI [Independent National Electoral Commission], acknowledged Saturday [15 June] the military junta's decision to keep 7 July as the date for first-round presidential elections.

Last Thursday CENI announced that the original date set for the polls would be postponed by three weeks because of problems with voting lists, but this decision was overruled later in the day by the junta.

According to the government, France — the former colonial power in Niger — has provided the West African country with "exceptional" means to speed up the work of the commission. "Effectively, it is up to the head of state to fix the date of the poll, and we take note (of his decision)," CENI Chairman Maidadji Mainassara told journalists in Niamey on Saturday. The commission would "work as before with the new means at its disposal," he added.

Five candidates, including head of state General Ibrahim Bare Mainassara and the head of state who he overthrew in January, Mahamane Ousmane, are contesting the polls. Campaigning opened across the country on Friday. The candidates have said they are satisfied with the work of the commission. "If CENI continues in the same vein, we will have free and transparent elections," said former National Assembly President Mahamadou Issoufou, who is another of the presidential hopefuls.

Niger: CRA Dismisses Rumors on Resumption of Hostilities

*AB1306143496 Niamey Voix du Sahel Network
in French 1200 GMT 13 Jun 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] The Coordination of the Armed Resistance [CRA] made a statement this morning dismissing rumors that it has resumed hostilities on the ground. Through its chairman, the CRA reaffirmed its entire support for the 24 April peace agreement, and the 2 April agreement on the recognition of the CRA.

Niger: Workers Begin 48-Hour General Strike 13 Jun*AB1306143896 Niamey Voix du Sahel Network in French 1200 GMT 13 Jun 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] As of today Niger workers are observing a 48-hour general strike in response to an appeal by the Federation of Labor Unions of Niger (USTN). In its strike notice to the minister of civil service, labor, and employment, the labor union movement called for the full payment of February salaries, and the payment of salaries for the coming months when they fall due. The USTN also demanded the refund of illegal deductions made from the back payment for the previous months.

Nigeria**Nigeria: Foreign Minister Returns From Special Mission to Monrovia***AB1406223596 Lagos NTA Television Network in English 2000 GMT 14 Jun 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Foreign affairs minister, Chief Tom Ikimi, has returned to Abuja at the end of his fact-finding mission to war-ravaged Liberia. Foreign news correspondent Godfried Idowu reports that the mission is aimed at evaluating the progress toward peace in that country since the minisummit of west African heads of government in Accra, Ghana, last month. Godfried has details of the special mission:

[Begin recording] [Idowu] Foreign affairs minister, Chief Tom Ikimi, told top commanders of the sub-regional peace monitoring force ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] that he had come as a special eye of the head of state General Sani Abacha, explaining that the resurgence of violence in Monrovia last April had dealt a devastating blow to the Abuja peace accord to the disgust of the west African leaders.

In his earlier briefing, the ECOMOG field commander Major General John Inienger disclosed that peacekeepers had painfully but successfully carried out the first Accra mandate of restoring the war-ravaged capital city of Monrovia to its safe haven status. ECOMOG troops, he said, have now been fully deployed throughout Monrovia with the simultaneous withdrawal of combatants of the rival factions out of the city. [passage omitted]

Chief Ikimi also held consultations jointly and separately with special representatives of the United Nations, ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States], and the four remaining members of the Liberian six-member presidential council in the persons of the council chairman Professor Wilton Sankawulo, NPFL's

[National Patriotic Front of Liberia] Charles Taylor, traditional ruler Chief Temba Teilor, and Alhaji G.V. Kromah of ULIMO-K [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Kromah]. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, an uneasy quiet rests over Monrovia and the civil population now dare to carry out their normal outdoor activities. Chief Ikimi undertook an extensive tour of the city to assess the damage. [passage omitted]

Chief Ikimi says it will be regrettable that the factional leaders continue to thwart west African peace efforts in Liberia.

[Ikimi] I hope that they are in control of those who are following them and that they will be able to work hard to convince members of their country, to convince the international community that the peace that is now being reconstructed would be a lasting one. The onus rests with them to go the extra mile to assist ECOMOG and assist the subregional leaders to ensure that we could quickly move the peace process forward.

[Idowu] The two mainstream factional leaders, Mr. Charles Taylor of the NPFL and Alhaji G. V. Kromah of ULIMO, also seem remorseful over the recent flare ups.

[Taylor] In showing some African appreciation to our brothers that have helped to solve this problem, so we have an obligation in the first and last instances to bring peace to our people. We gonna do our best to do so.

[Kromah] It is frustrating to see steps being made forward and then all of a sudden you see steps being made backwards, but I can tell you that the fundamental element of hope for this peace agreement being fully implemented still exists.

[Idowu] A summit of the ECOWAS Special Committee of Nine is due in Abuja next month and heads of government are expected to take a critical decision on further investments in the search for peace in Liberia. [end recording]

Nigeria: Opposition Nadeco Official Receives Death Threats*AB1506135196 Paris AFP in English 1234 GMT 15 Jun 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lagos, 15 Jun (AFP) — Former Nigerian senator and opposition activist Chief Abrahm Adesanya is getting death threats after the murder of the wife of detained opposition leader Moshood Abiola, press reports said Saturday [15 June].

"Be warned. You are next, Senator Abraham Adesanya," read an unsigned letter, composed of clipped newspaper

characters and slipped under the door of the home of one of Adesanya's sons in Lagos.

Adesanya told Nigerian reporters that he has brought the threats to the attention of the police, who are continuing to investigate the June 4 murder of Kudiratu Abiola.

Adesanya is a senior official of Nigeria's opposition National Democratic Council (NADECO), which had close ties with Mrs. Abiola, an outspoken campaigner for her husband's release.

Abiola is being held on treason charges — punishable by death — for declaring himself president on the first anniversary of a June 1993 presidential election he is widely believed to have won but which was annulled by the ruling military junta. Family sources said Friday that Abiola's younger brother and at least five other close relations had been taken away by police for questioning over his 44-year-old spouse's death in an ambush on her car.

Nigeria's Military Government has pledged to return the country to democracy in 1998, but opposition parties say that change should come now.

Nigeria: Students Clash With Police on Election Anniversary

AB1406132896 Paris AFP in English
1323 GMT 14 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lagos, 14 Jun (AFP) — Two students were shot and 150 others arrested in southwest Nigeria following a clash between police and students marking the third anniversary of annulled presidential elections, press reports said Friday (14 June). The clashes occurred Wednesday at the College of Technology in Esa-Oke, in Nigeria's south-west Osun State, as students tried to enter the institute despite being given the day off.

Police, who thought they were deliberately trying to flout the order to stay away from the college, tried to turn the throng of youths round, firing teargas at the crowd, and arresting three students on the spot, press reports said.

The arrests provoked other students who attacked the police station in the town. Police sent in reinforcements in the form of two lorry-loads of riot policemen from nearby Ilesa city, and some 150 students were arrested. Two students were shot by the police and are receiving treatment in a hospital, the reports said, quoting a spokesman of the students.

The institution has also been shut indefinitely as a result of the incident, but there has been no official confirmation of the shooting. Wednesday marked the

third anniversary of June 1993 presidential elections which were annulled after millionaire businessman Moshood Abiola claimed victory.

Nigeria: Abiola's Brother, Other Close Relations Interrogated

AB1406140196 Paris AFP in English
1347 GMT 14 Jun 96

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Lagos, 14 Jun (AFP) — The younger brother of imprisoned politician Moshood Abiola and at least five other close relations have been taken away by police for interrogation over the assassination of Abiola's wife, Kudiratu, family sources said Friday (14 June).

Alhaji Mobashiru Abiola, the junior brother of Abiola, was taken away Thursday in Lagos, brought to Abeokuta 100 kilometres, 62 miles, to the north, where his residence and office were searched, and then brought back to Lagos, the sources said. He and other relations were still being held, the sources said.

Abiola's first son Kola, interrogated by police since Tuesday, was yet to be released late Thursday, the sources said.

Police said Thursday that Kola Abiola, who manages some of his millionaire father's business concerns, would be held as long as the investigation lasted. Abiola's personal physician, Ore Falomo, told AFP that he made a statement to the police last Wednesday. [passage omitted]

Nigeria: Abiola's Brother Denies Reports of Feud in Family

AB1506182596 London BBC World Service
in English 1705 GMT 15 Jun 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The brother of the jailed Nigerian opposition leader, Moshood Abiola, has denied reports of a split within the family. Since the killing of Moshood Abiola's wife, Kudiratu Abiola, in Lagos last week, several family members have been detained by police for questioning.

Correspondents say local newspapers have carried reports of feuds within the family. Now, Mr. Abiola's brother, Mubashiru, has said in a statement that there were family differences about how best to secure his brother's release but these had been resolved before Kudiratu's killing. Opposition and human rights groups believe the killing of Mrs. Abiola was politically motivated.

Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone: President Kabbah Talks About Style of Government

AB1406184096 London BBC World Service
in English 1500 GMT 14 Jun 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] These are still relatively early days for Sierra Leone's new President Ahmed Tejan Kabbah who assumed office in March and is yet to put his stamp on government. Prior to successive military regimes, civilian politicians in Sierra Leone did not enjoy the best of reputations among the electorate. So what can they expect from the new leader?

Well, for a start, he has chosen not to occupy the presidential palace in Freetown, insisting instead to live in his own house in the hills overlooking the city. And that is where Elizabeth Ohene went to visit him. What sort of a leader would he be, she asked. Would he be able to sack people?

[Begin recording] [Kabbah] No. When somebody does something that... [pauses] for which he should be fired, no I have no problem in firing people. Absolutely not. I think what I am really trying to do at the moment is, I was in the colonial administrative service before independence and at a senior level. So I knew precisely how the government was structured, how we managed to run a good government. Now, we had in place then, rules and regulations which people really scrupulously followed. Now, unfortunately, over the past two decades or more, those rules have all been thrown away.

[Ohene] Would ministers get fired for example if they are not delivering?

[Kabbah] This was one of the very first statements I made that the tenure of office of ministers will clearly depend on their performance.

[Ohene] Mr. President, I wonder just how much power you have within your own party? Would you be allowed to do that? Many presidents have found out that maybe the party as such is more powerful, and that they don't want you firing what they consider to be one of their rather important personalities.

[Kabbah] I think my message to my party has been very clear. I have told them that the party is one organization. There is a chairman, a vice chairman to run the party,

the affairs of the party. That there is a government. I run the government assisted by ministers. Now, so as far as I am concerned, the party has really no business coming to interfere into the running of the government. I have made this crystal clear to top party members.

If the party is in the position that they want to formulate policies and forward those policies to me for consideration, then I will certainly put the policy over to the cabinet. And then if we adopt exactly what the party wants, then of course it becomes a government policy the moment it is adopted. Don't forget we have a broad-based government here and it is not everybody who is in a cabinet that belongs to my party. So I happen to be leader of that party, yes. And I happen to be also a member of that party, yes. And I also happen to be some one who will listen to ideas for the formulation of policies from my party and from other parties. And also from every citizen in this country. And I will be examining those policy, ideas and suggestions. If I believe that they are in the best interest of the country, certainly I would really do everything possible to make sure that those policy initiatives are adopted by the government. And then they become a government policy at that time but not otherwise.

[Ohene] How accessible are you going to be Mr. President, to the ordinary Sierra Leonean?

[Kabbah] I have tried to make myself accessible. But I have made it crystal clear that anybody who wants to come and see me on any matter that has to do with a particular ministry, that that person should first of all go to the ministry because there are experts in the ministry, there are officials there who would be able to provide whatever advice is needed. And then, if that person, there is any roadblock placed in that person, in that individual's way, then that individual has a right to come to the president and appeal for a review of the situation. But I do not want to have a situation whereby you have ministers and ministries set up with people that you consider would be qualified to address a specific issue and then you really remove the rug from under them, through people coming to see you privately and asking for your views on things like these. And that would be one way to undermine the government itself. And that would be also one way to bring the entire population to State House when we are not equipped to answer all the queries that may be coming if one want to really adopt that type of policy. [end recording]

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